



Guide to the Alvin T. Parnell photographs of Durham, North Carolina

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Summary

Collection Title:

Alvin T. Parnell photographs of Durham, North Carolina, circa 1898-1986, 1910-1960

Creator:

Parnell, Alvin T.

Abstract:

Alvin T. Parnell was a commercial photographer based in Durham, N.C. Collection chiefly consists of 167 black-and-white photographs of the city and people of Durham, North Carolina. The majority, chiefly taken by Parnell from 1920 through the 1950s, are views of downtown streets, commercial and industrial buildings, churches, and infrastructure, especially transportation. Many sites are related to the tobacco manufacturing businesses based in Durham. A few are of African American tobacco workers posed in the field and female factory workers ending their shift. Other images range widely and include a Trinity College (later Duke University) reunion, war veterans at gatherings, a minstrel band, a cart advertising Bull Durham tobacco, and tobacco fields with posed workers, white and African American. In addition, there are portraits of prominent Durham individuals and families. Formats include 85 vintage and modern gelatin silver prints, chiefly 8x10 inches, 82 contact prints, and 12 safety negatives. Includes an information folder with 1986 obituary and collection information.

Extent:

1.5 Linear Feet (2 boxes; 183 items)
2 boxes; 183 items

Language:

Materials in English.

Collection ID:

RL.11373

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1sw71>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Alvin T. Parnell photographs of Durham, North Carolina, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection comprises 167 early to mid-20th century black-and-white photographs of the city and people of Durham, North Carolina. The majority of the images were taken by Alvin T. Parnell, a commercial photographer with a studio in downtown Durham, from about 1920 to 1950; prints from 1898 to 1919 likely were from the Cole-Holladay studio, which Parnell took over around 1920. Formats include a few vintage mounted albumen and gelatin silver prints, unmounted vintage and modern gelatin silver prints, and small contact prints made from original nitrate negatives. There are also twelve safety film negatives present, from which some copy prints were made. Includes an information folder with Parnell's 1986 obituary and collection information.

The largest group of photographs, taken from the late 1910s through the early 1950s, features views of Durham's growing downtown, often commissioned by Parnell's business and City Hall clients. In the background of the many street scenes one can see the progression of small storefront businesses that made up life on Main Street in a 20th century Southern Piedmont city. Given Durham's role as a birthplace for the post-Civil War tobacco manufacturing industry, it is not surprising that there are numerous photographs of buildings and industrial sites belonging to American Tobacco, Blackwell Tobacco, and Liggett Myers. Parnell also photographed buses, trolleys, and other scenes for an early Durham power and transportation company, Durham Public Services.

Other images focus on people, and range widely in subject matter: men posed at a Trinity College (later Duke University) reunion, war veterans at gatherings, fraternities, children on a playground, and a minstrel band. A few are of African American tobacco workers posed in the field and female factory workers ending their shift. There are also portraits of prominent individuals and families: an elderly Bennehan Cameron with family members; John Ruffin Green (one of Durham's earliest tobacco entrepreneurs); Washington Duke and sons with associates at a barbeque; the Rosenstein family (optometrists from New York who came to Durham in 1904); William Umstead (U.S. Senator from northern Durham County); and various police chiefs and businessmen. There are also a few portraits of women, some with captions and some unidentified.

There are also twelve safety film negatives in the collection, sized 8x10 and 4x5 inches, from which a selection of copy prints were made after the collection was acquired. A few have no existing prints - these are noted in the collection guide.

In addition to photographs in this collection, some if not most of the earlier images of Durham in the Durham Chamber of Commerce collection in the Rubenstein Library are likely to have been taken by Parnell. His work is also likely to be found in other collections related to Durham residents containing photographs.

Biographical/Historical

Alvin Talmadge Parnell (1899-1986) was born in Horry County, South Carolina. He became an apprentice in the Walter Holladay photography studio in Durham, N.C., located on Main Street (often spelled Halladay or Holloday). When he returned from World War I service, he took over the Holladay studio from a Mr. Ramsey, and operated it under his name until the 1950s, when he left Durham to live in Lumberton, N.C. His wife took over the business, renaming it the Overton-Parnell Studio. It is likely that in addition to providing photographs for business clients, Parnell also acted as photographer for Durham City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, and local newspapers. Parnell died in 1986 and is buried in Lumberton.

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Arrangement

Arranged in three series: Photographs, Contact Prints, and Negatives. The photographs are arranged in three groupings: places, people, and a few miscellaneous images; and in rough chronological order within.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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askRL@duke.edu

URL: <https://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Access note. Original negatives are closed to general use; access only by permission of the Archive of Documentary Arts Curator. Viewing copies may be made for access to content.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Alvin T. Parnell photographs of Durham, North Carolina were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a purchase in 1975.

Processing Information

Processed by Paula Jeannet, Justin Baez, and Ben Saalfeld, March 2017.

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: 1975-0001.

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Related Materials

Related Material

[Durham Chamber of Commerce records, circa 1910-1981 \(photographs from Holladay Studio and probably by Alvin Parnell\)](#) Rubenstein Library, Duke University

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Names and Subjects

- Central business districts -- North Carolina -- Durham -- Pictorial works
- City and town life -- Durham, N.C. -- Pictorial works
- Commercial photography -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Photographers -- North Carolina -- Durham
- Tobacco industry -- North Carolina -- History
- Durham (N.C.) -- Buildings, structures, etc. -- Pictorial works
- Durham (N.C.) -- Economic conditions
- Durham (N.C.) -- History
- Durham (N.C.) -- Photographs
- Durham (N.C.) -- Social life and customs
- Durham County (N.C.) -- History
- North Carolina -- History
- Albumen prints
- Black-and-white photographs
- Contact prints
- Gelatin silver prints
- Negatives (photographs)
- Parnell, Alvin T.

General Note

Original nitrate negatives were deaccessioned at accessioning; contact prints of the images exist in the collection.

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Collection Inventory

Photographs, circa 1898-1950s

Physical Description: 85 items

Scope and Contents

Eight-five photographs make up the series, all black-and-white gelatin silver prints ranging in size from about 4x5 to 8x10 inches, with the great majority in the latter size category. There are also three larger prints roughly 11x14 inches. About a third are vintage prints, with the rest being modern copy prints made

from negatives or contact prints. Many thus have a corresponding duplicate in the contact prints series, and though smaller, some contacts offer lighter, clearer images. There are a number of contact prints whose images are not found in the Photographs series. There are also images present in the Negatives series without a corresponding positive print in the collection.

Because Parnell took over the Cole-Holladay studio around 1919 or 1920, there are some pre-1919 prints that originated from Holladay; prints taken after 1920 were the Parnell studio's work. Credit for the Bennett place photograph has been given by the Library of Congress to a John Chapman Michie; it is not known how the print came to be in the Parnell's collection.

Written on the backs of the vintage prints are various captions and other remarks in Parnell's hand, and sometimes reproduction and layout markings, probably for use in the local newspaper. A few are signed by Parnell, or marked with his studio stamp.

The prints are in numerical order as assigned by library staff, in rough chronological order within subseries. Descriptions of subject content are found in the subseries notes and individual entries for each photograph.

Prints were formerly in random order; they have been organized into three series: Places, Transportation, People, and Other.

Places, circa 1910-1950s

Physical Description: 47 items

Scope and Contents

These 47 images begin with one of the city of Durham's earliest sites, with the Bennitt farmstead - site of the largest Civil War surrender - photographed around 1904. Subsequent images chiefly document the 1910s and 1920s, as Durham grew into a busy manufacturing center based almost exclusively on the tobacco industry.

Because of Alvin Parnell's preference for outdoor work and his many commissions from city merchants, the photographs capture in great detail downtown development, documenting nearly every major commercial landmark and church in the town, as well as some of its most significant residences. Along the way, Parnell's lens also documented the passersby, traffic, storefronts, and advertising of those early decades.

All of the images are in black-and-white, and about half are modern copy prints made sometime in the 1980s from the original negatives or contact prints. The rest are vintage gelatin silver prints. When Parnell took over the Cole-Holladay studio around 1919 or 1920, following his World War I service,

he inherited some pre-1919 prints that originated from the earlier studio (where he was also apprenticed before 1919).

Bennett [Bennitt] farm buildings and tree,
Hillsborough Road, original image by John
Chapman Michie (?), circa 1904

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0001

Scope and Contents

These buildings were gone by 1921. On back of print: "Parnell Studio, Al. Parnell, Photographer, 209 1/2 W. Main St...copyright secured." Library of Congress copy negative catalog record gives photographer's name as John Chapman Michie, circa 1904.

Durham Loan and Trust building, W. Main St.,
before 1910

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0002

Scope and Contents

Electricity poles present in a 1910 photograph of Trust Building and new Post Office are absent in this image. One of two copies.

Durham Loan and Trust building, W. Main St.,
before 1910

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0003

Scope and Contents

Duplicate.

Temple Building, 302 W. Main St.,
headquarters for Home Savings Loan, Elks,
and Odd Fellows, circa 1916

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0004

Four Acres, Benjamin N. Duke's residence,
seen from the rear, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0005

Trinity Church, downtown Durham, before
1923

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0006

Scope and Contents

Building burned in January 1923.

Bennett Place, Hillsborough Road, before 1923 Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0007

Scope and Contents

Commemoration or other ceremony, with a large crowd; a single surviving chimney of Bennett farm is visible in background. A columned memorial was erected on the site in 1923.

Bennett Place Unity monument, Hillsborough Road, after 1923 Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0008

Scope and Contents

Memorial to Civil War surrender was erected in 1923.

Bennett Place Unity monument, Hillsborough Road, after 1923 Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0009

Five Points Drug Co., front view, with men informally posed in front, 1920s Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0010

Five Points Drug Co., 1920s (duplicate, reversed) Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0011

Five Points Drug Co., 1920s (duplicate, reversed) Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0012

Five Points Drug Co., 1920s, enlargement Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0013

Scope and Contents

Enlargement showing detail of front of building.

Central downtown, 1920s Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0014

Jordan Building, West Main St., with Sears Roebuck, Rosenstein's clothing, and Lipscomb-Gattis, 1920s Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0015

Masonic Building, later known as Eligibility Building, East Main St., after 1924

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0016

Scope and Contents

Housed several organizations, including Elks and Freemasons.

Downtown, white men in suits and African American workers standing on truck behind brick buildings, with pile of cartons on ground marked "Chesterfield," circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0017

Paschall Bakery buildings, Duke and Morgan Sts., after 1924

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0018

Bull-drawn wagon at curbside, hung with advertising placards, and announcement of "Man Buried Alive" show for "Benefit Community Relief Committee," circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0019

Scope and Contents

Original print.

Bull-drawn wagon at curbside, hung with advertising placards, and announcement of "Man Buried Alive" show for "Benefit Community Relief Committee," circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0020

Scope and Contents

Modern copy print.

Jourdan Transfer Company trucks and African American and white workers, back of buildings on Main St. (?), circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0021

West Main St. (?), 100 block, with Jourdan Transfer Company, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0022

Hackney Block buildings, with Plaza Café and drugstore, 1925 April 5

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0023

Scope and Contents

Date from paper slip.

West Main St., with Whelan Drugstore, Tipton's, late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0024

Durham Ice Cream building, Duke Street (?), 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0025

Scope and Contents

"Durham Ice Cream" written on back of print.

The Salvation Army Citadel, Morris St., early 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0026

Scope and Contents

Information from paper slip.

H. M Kramer Tobacco Company Wholesale, Holland St., 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0027

Scope and Contents

Now Holland Alley.

Durham County Courthouse, second iteration, E. Main St., early 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0028

E.H. and M.V. Wholesale Millers building on fire, Peabody St., after 1924

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0029

Corner of Hunt and Mangum Streets, 1928 January 20

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0030

Durham Morning Herald buildings, Market St.,
probably 1929

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0031

Scope and Contents

The Durham Morning Herald acquired the Durham Sun in 1929. The buildings were demolished in 1930.

Unidentified Art Deco building, Main St. (?),
with Christmas light decorations, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0032

Two Lakewood/Mangum Streets buses stop for
passengers on W. Main St., looking west, with
Salvation Army and Elliott Furniture Company
buildings in background, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0033

Scope and Contents

Note poster advertising a Charlie Chaplin movie. Print is very dark;
contact print offers a lighter, clearer image.

Garage, power plant, downtown, unknown
street, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0034

Scope and Contents

Dark print; contact print, if present in collection, may be clearer.

Old-style stoplight and directional signs for
cities, unknown intersection, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0035

Aerial view of large complex of low tobacco
warehouses, Broad St. Extension, with farms
surrounding it and Durham in distance, circa
late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0036

Unidentified large one-story warehouse, with
long line of chauffeurs and cars waiting in
front, late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0037

Scope and Contents

May be warehouse complex on Broad St. Extension, north Durham.

Unidentified large brick building, Durham,
with ivy on it, 1926?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0038

Scope and Contents

On back of print: "Holladay 26."

Beavers and Montgomery Standard Oil service
station with tiled roof, Mangum and Chapel
Hill Sts., 1925 July 25

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0039

Scope and Contents

Information from paper slip.

Standard Oil service station with tiled roof,
from further away, with "--Ty Transfer Co.,"
and "Happy Feed Store," unknown location in
Durham, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0040

Carolina Theater (Durham Auditorium),
Morgan St., 1930

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0041

Aerial view of Four Acres, Duke Memorial
Methodist Church, West Chapel Hill St.,
1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0042

Fayetteville St. bus stopped at the Liggett
and Myers factory at a shift change, women
workers and Fire Station #2 are visible, circa
1930

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0043

Lucky Strike tower and American Tobacco
complex, additional construction completion,
circa 1930

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0044

Looking west-northwest down Seminary St.
towards the Roycroft Warehouse tobacco
auction complex on Rigsbee, 1940s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0045

Durham aerial view by Charles Doherty of
Greensboro, 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0046

Durham aerial view, 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0047

Durham County Courthouse, second iteration,
E. Main St., early 1920s

Box 2 > Image RL-11373-
P-0086

Scope and Contents

Larger, lighter version of smaller print in collection, sized 9 1/4 x 11 3/4 inches.

View of Durham downtown, looking south,
1920s

Box 2 > Image RL-11373-
P-0087

Scope and Contents

Visible in background are the American Tobacco complex and the Blackwell Old Bull building. On back of print: "looking S by E from hotel / Uptown [banking?] district." 9 1/4 x 12 1/2 inches.

Transportation, 1920s

Physical Description: 11 items

Scope and Contents

Parnell received a commission from an early Durham utility and transportation company, Durham Public Services (DPS), to photograph their fleets of vehicles and city power and transportation infrastructure. Thus, these 11 images chiefly show DPS trolleys, ice trucks, and buses parked at the car barn and on city streets. A few include people: conductors and DPS officials posing by a bus, and passengers getting on or off a trolley. One image is of the Gulf Refining Company property in 1925, with a group of

three tanker trucks. Another 1920s photograph is of Durham's Alexander Motor Company's display of new Ford models at a trade show.

Durham Public Service work truck No. 3 on an unpaved city street, late 1910s or early 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0048

Hospital and Country Club trolley car near car barn, E. Main St., before 1930

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0049

Close-up of Hospital and Country Club trolley car near car barn, E. Main St., before 1930

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0050

Hope Valley line bus with conductors and men in suits posing in front, Five Points/Main St., late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0051

Scope and Contents

Second-story shops visible in background: C.D. Kenny Co., Warrenetta Hair Shop; Durham Art Shop; Bluefield Coal and Coke Co.

City trolley with advertisement for a show at City Auditorium, picking up passengers, unknown location, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0052

Scope and Contents

One of two copies. Very dark prints; contact print offers a lighter and clearer image.

City trolley with advertisement for a show at City Auditorium, picking up passengers, unknown location, 1920s (duplicate)

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0053

Line of eight Durham Public Service buses, seen from front angle, parked on East Main with Carpenter Motor Co. in background, late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0054

Line of eight Durham Public Service buses, seen from rear angle, parked on East Main, late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0055

Lakewood Park bus, parked on side of wide street, unknown location, late 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0056

Gulf Refining Company, three tanker trucks parked in industrial location, water tower in distance, 1925 May 30

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0057

Scope and Contents

Information from paper slip.

Alexander Motor Company, Ford automobile showcase at trade show or fair, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0084

Scope and Contents

Printed on heavy fabric-backed photographic paper.

People, circa 1898-1940s

Physical Description: 25 items

Scope and Contents

The earliest photograph in the collection is housed in this series; taken in 1898, it shows a group of young women belonging to the Trinity Church Sunday School class. After another early image of prominent citizen Julian Shakespeare Carr reviewing Confederate veterans in front of the Carolina Hotel, circa 1903, the rest of the photographs date chiefly from the 1920s through the 1940s, and show Durham citizens in both casual and posed settings.

Subjects range widely, and include: children playing in an early playground field across from two tobacco warehouses; the dark interior of a bank with customer and tellers; two scenes from a Trinity College reunion; a large musical band advertising a minstrel show, a group of World War I veterans; and portraits of Bennehan Cameron as an elderly man, John Ruffin Green (one of Durham's earliest tobacco entrepreneurs), the Rosenstein family (early Durham optometrists), and several men affiliated with the Durham Police Department. Some are photographs of portraits. Only a few individuals are unidentified.

Two of the photographs are film or television stills: one was labeled as a scene from the 1925 movie "Durham's Hero," filmed in the city (there are several contact prints from this same movie), and one is from an unidentified set featuring a scene in a Mexican-style cantina from about the early 1940s.

Trinity Church Sunday School class, circa 1898

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0058

Scope and Contents

All young women; names include: Whitaker, Bradsher, Ella Peay, Daisy Cox, Mary Cole. Albumen on card mount.

Julian Carr reviewing his Confederate regiment in front of Carolina Hotel, circa 1903

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0059

Physical Description: 4 items

Scope and Contents

Three modern copies. Original is in Durham Chamber of Commerce collection.

Children on playground field across from two tobacco warehouses, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0060

Scope and Contents

Stamped on photo: "Halladay Studio, Durham N.C." (Holladay is misspelled.)

Portrait of Abraham Rosenstein and family, early optometrist, circa 1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0061

Scope and Contents

Information from caption on back of print: 25th wedding anniversary photo of Mr. and Mrs. Rosenstein, with four children, left to right: Florence, Ricky Ray, Eva, and Abraham Jr.

Interior of bank [?], with male customer and two female tellers, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-P-0062

Scope and Contents

Bank manager can be seen in background through open office door.

Large "Traveling Men's Minstrel Band,"
posed in front of Shepherd Furniture Co. in
downtown Durham, 1922 April 17

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0063

Scope and Contents

Screatched into negative is "Parnell, Durham, NC, 4-17-22."

Portrait of Bennehan Cameron (d. 1925), with
three others, likely daughter and son-in-laws,
early 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0064

Eleven men from Trinity College class of 1896
at a reunion, 1926?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0065

Trinity College classes of 1901 and 1906 posed
in front of sign, "Plaza of Year, Reunion Class
Headquarters," 1926?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0066

Portrait of Duke May Queen Beryl Jones and
her attendant, Marie Tyler, 1928

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0067

Scope and Contents

On back of print: "Miss Jones later married Dr. Runyon Tyler of Durham
and Miss Tyler, Mr. Lindsey Gudger of Asheville."

Dougherty Men's Fraternity, 13 men posted in
group, May 10, 1939

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0068

Scope and Contents

On back of print: "May 10 1939, Durham Public Services, Vandiner" [?].

[Works Progress Administration?] Posed
portrait of group of men in similar khaki-style
uniforms, 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0069

Scope and Contents

Shirt fronts have stamped letters "W," "P," and perhaps an "A," in various combinations.

Portrait of William Umstead (1895-1954), U.S.
Senator from Bahama, 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0070

Portrait of man reportedly affiliated with
Police Department, "Dillard," 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0071

Portrait of "Mr. Wilson," man in uniform,
reportedly affiliated with Police Department,
1939

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0072

Scope and Contents

Date and name from back of print.

Studio portrait of Charlotte Ford, unretouched
proof, damaged, late 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0073

Scope and Contents

Possibly a high school portrait of daughter of Walter S. Ford, Durham.

Portrait of Mrs. E. Griffin, early 1940s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0074

Portrait of Victor Bryant, 1930s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0075

Scope and Contents

Probably Victor Bryant Jr., prominent attorney and son of Durham lawyer
and city attorney Victor Bryant.

Portrait of Durham Police Chief H. E. King,
circa 1940

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0076

Portrait of unidentified bride, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0077

World War I veterans of the American Legion
at a ceremony at Convention Center, Raleigh,
N.C.

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0078

Scope and Contents

Caption from back of print.

Six unidentified women posed around a buffet
table with punch bowl, 1940s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0079

Young man and woman at elaborate trade
show booth for American Tobacco Company,
1925 February 28

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0080

Scope and Contents

Paper slip found with contact print reads: "2-28-25 / Durham Morning
Herald's movie. / Durham's Hero? / Stills for Mr. Newland." Notes were
taken by library staff from original negative sleeves.

Still from unidentified movie or tv set
featuring a Mexican-style "cantina," with four
unidentified actors performing a scene, early
1940s?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0081

Scope and Contents

Two large cameras are visible on left and right frame edges; they appear
to be television cameras. The actors are three men (one may be Latino),
two in Mexican-style dress, and one woman of color also in Mexican-style
dress.

Large dinner gathering (approx. 800 people),
unknown location, 1940s

Box 2 > Image RL-11373-
P-0085

Scope and Contents

British flag along with U.S. flag may indicate a World War II-related event.
9 x 14 inches.

Other Images, 1920s

Physical Description: 2 items

Scope and Contents

Two images of a large and elaborate secretary desk by Wooton Desk Manufacturing Company.

Carved cabinet secretary or postal desk,
by Wooton Desk Manufacturing Company,
swinging doors open, circa 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0082

Scope and Contents

Wooton Desk Manufacturing, based in Indianapolis, went out of business around 1884. Printed on heavy fabric-backed photographic paper.

Carved cabinet secretary or postal desk,
by Wooton Desk Manufacturing Company,
swinging doors closed, circa 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
P-0083

Scope and Contents

Printed on heavy fabric-backed photographic paper.

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Contact Prints, circa 1910-1961

Physical Description: 82 items

Scope and Contents

Sometime in the 1980s, library staff had 82 small contact prints printed from Parnell's nitrate negatives, which were then discarded. Many are duplicates of larger prints in the photographs series, but there are also images not found elsewhere in the collection. Captions and dates accompany about half of them, copied from their original sleeves. Arranged in numerical order applied by library staff.

Prints 1-20 Box 1

Physical Description: 20 items

Prints 21-40 Box 1

Physical Description: 20 items

Prints 41-60 Box 1

Physical Description: 20 items

Prints 61-82

Box 1

Physical Description: 22 items

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Negatives, circa 1902-1950s

Physical Description: 12 items

Access Restrictions:

Original negative are closed to general use; access only by permission of Rubenstein staff. Some copy prints are available. Please contact the Rubenstein Library before coming to use these materials.

Scope and Contents

Safety negatives on sheet film in 8x10 and 4x5 inch sizes. Some have prints already in collection; some are without accompanying prints. These are noted in the item listings.

Amoco gas station on unidentified wide city street, early 1950s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-N-0001

Scope and Contents

No print in collection.

Walker's Esso and a Texaco gas station, Holloway and Miami, looking east, early 1950s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-N-0002

Scope and Contents

No print in collection.

Walker's Esso gas station, looking west down Holloway St., early 1950s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-N-0003

Scope and Contents

No print in collection. One of two copies.

Walker's Esso gas station, looking west down Holloway St., early 1950s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-N-0004

Scope and Contents

No print in collection. Copy of previous negative 0003, same frame.

Walker's Esso and a Texaco gas stations,
Holloway, looking east, with Moose Lodge in
right foreground, early 1950s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0005

Scope and Contents

Also visible is advertising billboard for Kenan Oil Company. No print in collection.

Walker's Esso gas station, another view, looking
west down Holloway St., early 1950s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0006

Scope and Contents

No print in collection.

Ellis, Stone & Co. dry goods store, horse-drawn
wagon with two women in driver's seat and
store window in background (Main St.), circa
1905

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0007

Scope and Contents

The store was located at 109 W. Main St. No print in collection.

Washington Duke and sons with associates at
barbecue in Erwin, N.C. (then known as Duke),
group portrait, circa 1902-1904

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0008

Scope and Contents

From print also in Duke University Archives: front row, L to R: B.N. Duke, Washington Duke, J.B. Duke, T.J. Walker, A.B. Carrington, J.S. Cobb, and John Angier. Back row, L to R: Dr. A.G. Carr, W.A. Erwin, J. E. Stagg, Frank Tate, E.S. Yarbrough, Captain Lemon, and F.L. Fuller. No print in collection.

John R. (Ruffin) Green (1840-1869) (photograph
of portrait), undated

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0009

Scope and Contents

No print in collection.

Portrait of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bryant [Jr.?

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0010

Scope and Contents

No print in collection.

Portraits of [George] Watts Carr, Jr.
(1918-2006), circa 1936

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0011

Scope and Contents

High school portraits? Two takes on one negative sheet. No print in collection.

Trinity Church, downtown Durham, before 1923

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0012

Scope and Contents

Print is present in collection.

Hospital and Country Club trolley near car
barn, E. Main St., before 1930

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0013

Scope and Contents

Print is present in collection.

Old-style stoplight and pole with directional
signs for cities, unknown intersection, circa
1920

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0014

Scope and Contents

Print is present in collection.

Five Points Drug Company, 1920s

Box 1 > Image RL-11373-
N-0015

Scope and Contents

Print is present in collection.

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